



For Release: Monday, July 29, 2013

Contact: [Jessica Di Santo](mailto:Jessica.Di.Santo@iso.org) – (317) 229-7082

The Contours Return to Marsh *Symphony on the Prairie* for Performances August 9-10

INDIANAPOLIS – The Contours, featuring Sylvester Potts, is back by popular demand for its return performance in the 2013 Marsh *Symphony on the Prairie* series at the Conner Prairie Amphitheatre Friday and Saturday, August 9 and 10, at 8 p.m.

As Motown's No. 1 Party Group, the Contours will performing many of the greatest and most favorite musical hits of Motown including "Do You Love Me?" and "It Must Be Love." The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra does not perform during this concert weekend.

The gates to the amphitheater will open at 6:00 p.m. each evening. Tickets are priced at \$23 in advance and \$28 at the gate for adults, with children's prices (ages 2-12) at \$12 in advance and \$14 at the gate. Tickets may be purchased at any Marsh, MainStreet or O'Malia's supermarket location, by calling the Hilbert Circle Theatre Box Office at (317) 639-4300, toll free at (800) 366-8457, or by visiting the ISO's website at www.IndianapolisSymphony.org. Premium parking passes may be purchased for \$20 each exclusively through the Hilbert Circle Theatre Box Office.

Patrons can bring their own food, beverages (including alcohol) and blankets or lawn chairs to enjoy picnicking to the music on the beautiful natural grass amphitheater or reserve a table for only \$59 with seating for up to 10 people near the stage.

If rain is possible on concert days, the public can stay up-to-date by listening to radio station WIBC (93.1 FM), the official station for Marsh *Symphony on the Prairie* weather and traffic. Join the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra Facebook page and follow @Indy_Symphony on Twitter for details regarding upcoming concerts, guest artists and news from the ISO.

Marsh Supermarkets is the Title Sponsor of the entire 2013 Marsh *Symphony on the Prairie* season and St. Vincent Health is the Premiere Sponsor for the summer series. Barefoot Wine is the official wine sponsor of Marsh *Symphony on the Prairie*, and Erie Insurance provides Seriously Good seating upgrades at most shows. Associate Sponsors for this weekend are Erie Insurance, Financial Planning Association of Greater Indiana, IceMiller LLP, Indiana Members Credit Union, and Regions.

Artist Biographies

The Contours have proudly worn the label “Motown’s No. 1 Party Group” for more than 50 years. The Contours, featuring Sylvester Potts, are center stage again, due in great part to the Academy Award winning film, *Dirty Dancing*. Their hit “Do You Love Me” was featured in the film and became so popular that it gave birth to an international tour entitled “The Dirty Dancing Tour,” starring The Contours, Bill Medley, Merry Clayton and Eric Carmen. The tour lasted 10 months, played to over two million people in eight countries and sold over 10 million copies of *More Dirty Dancing*. Motown Records was quick to capitalize on their popularity by reissuing their original version of “Do You Love Me,” which rose to No. 11 on the national charts, one of the few recordings in history to hit the top 20 in two different decades.

Native Detroiter **Sylvester Potts** was born on December 22, 1938, raised on the east side and graduated from Northeastern High School, the same school that Mary Wilson of The Supremes, Martha Reeves and Bobby Rogers of The Miracles attended. Sylvester’s heart was always in music, and he performed at clubs and parties in the Detroit area whenever the opportunity presented itself becoming a member of The Four Sonics. As stated in Bill Dahl’s book, *Motown, The Golden Years*, Billy Gordon, Billy Hoggs, Joe Billingslea, Hubert Johnson and Sylvester came together as the Blenders in 1959. The young group was inspired by fellow Detroiter Hank Ballard’s dance-crazy Midnighters. “Before we went to Berry (Gordy), we went to Contour Recording. Joe just happened to look up there and see that name, Contour Recording, and said, “That’d be a good name for us.” And the rest is history.

Born and raised in Detroit, **Tony Womack** started performing professionally in 1974 as a member of the local vocal group The Equations until the group disbanded in 1979. They performed throughout the Detroit area in clubs such as Mr. Kelly’s, The Latin Quarter and Stage One. From 1980-1991, Tony performed solo as well as serving as understudy for the role of Judas in the Gospel version of *Jesus Christ Superstar* with the Peddy Players, performing at the Fox, Grand Circus and Fisher Theaters. In 1991, Tony joined the vocal group The Executives. The group recorded the album titled Home and opened for Norman Connors, Roy Ayers and Ron Laws and at the Detroit landmark, the Baker’s Keyboard Lounge. From 1993-1997, Womack collaborated with several local artists, writing and producing, including a CD with Nita Jason, for which he wrote the lyrics for her dance single, “Dance with Me.” 1998-2002 brought worldwide performances with Ali Woodson and Richard Street.

Kim Green was born and raised in Detroit and began singing in church in the late 1960s. In the tradition that was legend in the eastside neighborhood where he grew up, many local vocal groups patterned themselves after groups that were recording at that time. Being blessed with the talents of dance and bass vocals, Kim was in demand by such local groups as The Starlights, The Equations, the Marquations, The Floaters, Chairmen of the Board and Upscale. He has performed at many of the legendary entertainment venues through the Detroit metro area, including Mr. Kelly’s, Phelps’ Lounge, Henry’s Lounge, Ben’s Hi Chaparral and The 20 Grand Ballroom. His talents as a choreographer and versatile background singer have kept Kim constantly on the vocal scene, most notably with Alturo Shelton’s Motown Review and Ali Woodson’s Emperors of Soul.

Tee Turner began his career in his hometown, Charlotte, N.C., singing gospel music. Success brought him to Detroit, where he soon became part of an ever growing list of acts – The Miracles, Percy Sledge, Chairmen of the Board – requesting his talents. And talented he is, first and foremost as a superb vocalist ranging from the haunting qualities of Marvin Gaye and David Ruffin (perhaps from his overall love of Motown music) to the current trends of today’s artists. From 1996-2011, he was a vocalist for The Miracles, becoming a worldwide traveler. *More Than One Night* is an R&B solo project reflecting Turner’s many moods and is internationally acclaimed. Tee joined The Contours featuring Sylvester Potts in 2011.

In Brief:

The Contours return to Conner Prairie to perform Motown Magic.

Performers: The Contours featuring Sylvester Potts

Location: Conner Prairie Amphitheater – 13400 N. Allisonville Rd., Fishers, IN

Date & Time: Fri. & Sat., Aug. 9 & 10, 8 p.m.

Repertoire: Motown Magic

Tickets:

Adults - \$23 (Advance); \$28 (At Gate)

Children (Ages 2-12) - \$12 (Advance); \$14 (At Gate)

Hilbert Circle Theatre Box Office by calling (317) 639-4300; Toll Free (800) 366-8457; in-person at all Marsh, MainStreet and O'Malia's stores, or online at www.IndianapolisSymphony.org

###